



# News Release

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Southwest Region (Arizona • New Mexico • Oklahoma • Texas)

<http://southwest.fws.gov>

Date: June 10, 2014

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## **Service Reopens Public Comment on Managing Oil and Gas Development on National Wildlife Refuge System Lands**

On February 24, 2014, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published in the *Federal Register* an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) seeking comments that will aid in the development of a proposed rule on managing activities associated with non-Federal oil and gas development on lands and waters of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

A 60-day comment period closed on April 25, 2014. The Service is reopening the ANPR on June 9, 2014, for another 30-day comment period, until July 9, 2014. Information already submitted does not need to be resubmitted.

This effort is part of the Service's ongoing commitment to avoid or minimize adverse effects on natural and cultural resources and wildlife-dependent recreation, ensure a consistent and effective regulatory environment for oil and gas operators, and protect public health and safety.

Written comments and information can be submitted by one of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments to Docket No. [FWS-HQ-NWRS-2012-0086]; or
- U.S. mail or hand-delivery: Public Comments Processing, Attn: [FWS-HQ-NWRS-2012-0086]; Division of Policy and Directives Management; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS 2042-PDM; Arlington, VA 22203.

The Service will post all comments on <http://www.regulations.gov>. This generally means the agency will post any personal information provided through the process. The Service is not able to accept email or faxes. Comments and materials, as well as supporting documentation, will be available for public inspection under the above docket number.

For more information, visit: <http://www.fws.gov/refuges/oil-and-gas/>.

*The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service.*

*For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit [www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov). Connect with our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/usfws](http://www.facebook.com/usfws), follow our tweets at [www.twitter.com/usfwshq](http://www.twitter.com/usfwshq), watch our YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/usfws> and download photos from our Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwshq>.*

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